

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a brush, the method comprising

- providing a brush head defining bristle cluster boreholes;
- providing a stuffing tool ram with opposed broad longitudinal sides and a pressing surface that includes a central region and two end regions, the central region having a width as measured between the broad longitudinal sides greater than a width of the end regions, a first broad longitudinal side of the ram disposed between ends of face sides of the ram and a second broad longitudinal side of the ram opposite the first broad longitudinal side, wherein the second broad longitudinal side is shorter than the first broad longitudinal side; and
- with the ram, pressing strip-shaped holding elements into engagement with corresponding bristle clusters and into corresponding boreholes with the end regions of the ram pressing surface penetrating into the material of the brush head as the central region extends into the borehole, thereby anchoring the bristle cluster in the borehole.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17 comprising a method of manufacturing a toothbrush, wherein the brush head is a toothbrush's head.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17 wherein pressing the holding element comprises pressing the holding elements into corresponding boreholes inclined relative to a longitudinal axis of the ram.
20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the width of the central region is between 10 percent and 80 percent greater than the width of the end regions.
21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the width of the central region is between 25 percent and 50 percent greater than the width of the end regions.
22. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a toothbrush, the method comprising
- providing a brush head defining bristle cluster boreholes;
 - providing a stuffing tool ram with opposed broad longitudinal sides and a pressing surface that includes a central region and two end regions, the central region having a width as measured between the broad longitudinal sides greater than a width of the end regions, a first broad longitudinal side of the ram disposed along a first line extending between ends of face sides of the ram and a second broad longitudinal side of the ram extending outward relative a second line extending between ends of the face sides of the ram such that the central regions includes an enlarged projecting area is disposed on one of the broad longitudinal sides of the ram; and
 - with the ram, pressing strip-shaped holding elements into engagement with corresponding bristle clusters and into corresponding boreholes with the end regions of the ram pressing surface penetrating into the material of the brush head as the central region extends into the borehole, thereby anchoring the bristle cluster in the borehole, wherein the boreholes are inclined relative to a longitudinal axis of the ram.

23. (Previously presented) A method of manufacturing a brush, the method comprising
- providing a brush head defining bristle cluster boreholes;
 - providing a stuffing tool ram with opposed broad longitudinal sides and a pressing surface that includes a central region and two end regions, the central region having a width as measured between the broad longitudinal sides greater than a width of the end regions, a first broad longitudinal side of the ram disposed along a first line extending between ends of face sides of the ram and a second broad longitudinal side of the ram extending outward relative to a second line such that the central region includes an enlarged projecting area disposed on only one of the broad longitudinal sides of the ram; and
 - with the ram, pressing strip-shaped holding elements into engagement with corresponding bristle clusters and into corresponding boreholes with the end regions of the ram pressing surface penetrating into the material of the brush head as the central region extends into the borehole, thereby anchoring the bristle cluster in the borehole, wherein the boreholes are inclined relative to a longitudinal axis of the ram.